

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15

SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 PA-02

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2980

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, JA

SUBJECT: ALASKA OIL, ZARB INTERVIEW

1. OCTOBER 15 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ASAHI EVENING NEWS CARRIES FRONT PAGE STORY ATTRIBUTED TO THE WASHINGTON STAR TO THE EFFECT THAT FRANK ZARB, FEA ADMINISTRATOR, SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT'S ENERGY RESOURCES COUNCIL HAS MADE A "FINAL" DECISION AGAINST SHIPPING ANY ALASKA OIL TO JAPAN. A SUGGESTED EXCHANGE OF ALASKA OIL TO JAPAN FOR JAPANESE OIL FROM THE MIDDLE EAST WAS RULED OUT, ZARB IS REPORTED AS SAYING, ON THE "COMMON SENSE" GROUNDS THAT IN THE EVENT OF ANOTHER OIL EMBARGO, JAPAN PRESUMABLY WOULD BE FORBIDDEN TO SHIP OIL TO THE US. (A RECENT LOCAL STORY MENTIONED ZAIRE, GABON AND INDONZSIA, IN ADDITION TO THE MIDDLE EAST, AS POSSIBLE SOURCES FOR EXCHANGE OIL.)

2. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING FULL TEXT OF THIS ZARB INTERVIEW.

3. AS DEPARTMENT WILL APPRECIATE, OFFICIAL STATEMENTS

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OF US OIL POLICY ARE OF GREAT INTEREST HERE IN JAPAN.

IT IS DIFFICULT TO RESPOND ADEQUATELY TO INQUIRIES IF
ALL WE HAVE ARE PRESS RECORDS. WOULD APPRECIATE.
THEREFORE DEPARTMENT FOLLOWING UP ON ZARB OFFER DURING
HIS RECENT VISIT HERE TO FURNISH AUTHORITATIVE TEXTS
TO US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING PUBLIC RELEASE
IN US.
HODGSON

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